**MCPS COMPETITIVE FOODS PROCEDURES**

**GOAL.** Reimbursable school meals programs should be the primary source of foods and beverages offered at school. All other foods and beverages sold or offered to students on school grounds must contribute to a healthy lifestyle and not add unnecessary calories, fat, sugar, sodium, or additives.

**FREE WATER AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL.** Safe drinking water shall be conveniently available to students throughout the school day at no charge.

**FOODS BROUGHT FROM HOME.** Families and students shall be encouraged to participate in reimbursable school meals programs; at the same time, schools will also make clear that lunches from home are welcome. Schools will discourage students from sharing their foods or beverages with one another during meal or snack times, given concerns about allergies and other restrictions on some children’s diets.

**NUTRITION STANDARDS.**

Mary is going to research and find options for this section.

**FOOD SALES OVERSIGHT.** Building principals must approve the sale, sales location, and sales scheduling of all foods and beverages on school grounds (including vending machines, school stores, coffee carts, snack bars, and concession stands) to assure nutritional integrity and to control their possible competition with the reimbursable school meals program. Vending machines, school stores, coffee carts, snack bars, and concession stands will be placed in areas of low student traffic away from school meals dining areas. All revenues from the sales of foods or beverages in vending machines, school stores, coffee carts, snack bars, and concessions stands will accrue to the school meals program or the student organizations approved by the building principal.

Foods and beverages sold during athletic events, musical and dramatic performances, and other evening and weekend events attended by adult visitors are encouraged to meet *Tier 1 and Tier 2 standards*; however, each such food or beverage item must be approved in advance by the building principal.

**VENDING CONTRACTS.**

Contracts or agreements with commercial food and beverage vendors shall be publicly and competitively bid in accordance with procurement requirements set for in \_\_\_\_\_\_ policy/procedure. All items available for sale must comply with the nutrition standards included in this procedure. Contracts shall be reviewed by the district food service supervisor to assure consistency with all provisions of this procedure before final approval by the MCPS Board of Trustees.

**FOODS AND BEVERAGES AS REWARD, INCENTIVE, TEACHING AID OR WELCOME.** Foods and beverages shall not be used or provided as a reward, incentive, teaching or welcoming aid.

**FUNDRAISING.**

School organizations engaged in fundraising activities may only sell foods and beverages as follows: *Tier 1* foods or beverages may be sold during school hours thirty minutes after the last lunch period with approval by the building principal. *Tier 2* foods and beverages may be sold only after school at the high school level. Organizations engaged in fundraising are encouraged to sell services or items other than foods and beverages.

**CLASSROOM CELEBRATIONS.** Schools will limit celebrations that involve food during the school day to no more than one party per class per month, held after the last lunch period. Each party will include no more than one food or beverage that does not meet nutrition standards for foods and beverages. The district will disseminate a list of healthy party ideas to parents and teachers.